NISHAD): (a) Yes, Sir. Polythene bags are not bio-degradable and therefore their, improper disposal causes environmental problems.

(b) As per information received from the Himachal Pradesh State Pollution Control Board, the Bharat Vikas Parishad, Manali Town have made efforts in replacing the polythene bags by paper and jute bags through public awareness campaigns.

(c) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government.

Allocation to Madhya Pradesh from Calamity Relief Fund

588. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tenth Finance Commission has made any recommendation for the allocation funds to Madhya Pradesh from the Calamity Relief Fund (CRF);

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what is the ratio of the Central and State Governments' contribution in this regard;

(d) whether the allocation is sufficient to provide relief to the victims of natural calamities in the State; and

(e) if not, what remedial action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) and (b) The Tenth Finance Commission had made the following allocations of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) to Madhya Pradesh :-

Year	Allocation (Rs. in crores)
1995-96	48.21
1996-97	51.08
1997-98	53.89
1998-99	56.65
1999-2000	59.05
Total :	Rs. 268.88

(c) The annual allocation of CRF is shared in the ratio of 3:1 by the Central and the State Governments.

(d) and (e) The Tenth Finance Commission has made the annual allocations of CRF taking into account the average of the aggregatge of ceilings of expenditure on natural calamities for the years 1983-84 to 1989-90 and the amount of CRF for the years 1990-91 to 1992-93. This has also been adjusted for inflation. As such the annual CRF allocations are adequate to take care of the requirements of relief and rehabilitation in the wake of natural calamities. However, if any serious hardship is there it should be brought to the notice of Central Government.

Decline in Kendriya Vidyalaya Results

589. SHRI CHIMANBHAI HARIBHAI SHUKLA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a gradual decline in the results of the Kendriya Vidyalaya in the CBSE examinations during the preceding three years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government for raising the educational standard of Kendriya Vidyalaya?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) Yes, Sir. However, the pass percentage of Kendriya Vidyalayas as a whole continues to be higher than that of the CBSE.

(b) The factors responsible include change in examination pattern, financial and administrative constraints.

(c) Special efforts are on to improve the quality of education in Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan through better supervision of academic activities, streamlining of recruitment procedure of teachers, establishment of Zonal Training Institutes for systematic in-service

training of teachers and Principals and encouragement of co-curriculer activities.

दिल्ली के कॉलेजों में दाखिले हेतु स्थानों की कमी

590. **श्री राम जेठमलानी:** क्या मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि दिल्ली में इस वर्ष बारहवीं कक्षा की परीक्षा में कुल 64,399 छात्र उत्तीर्ण हुए हैं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या यह भी सच है कि दिल्ली के नियमित कॉलेजों में उच्च शिक्षा के पाठ्यक्रमों में प्रवेश हेतु केवल 28,943 स्थान हैं;

(ग) यदि हां, तो क्या यह भी सच है कि केवल 60 प्रतिशत अंक प्राप्त करने वाले छात्र ही नियमित कॉलेजों में प्रवेश पा सकेंगे; और

(घ) यदि नहीं, तो इस संबंध में तथ्य क्या हैं?

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय में शिक्षा विभाग में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मुही राम सैकिया): (क) से (घ) केन्द्रीय माध्यमिक शिक्षा बोर्ड द्वारा भेजी गई सूचना के अनुसार दिल्ली क्षेत्र से इस वर्ष 65,435 विद्यार्थियों ने कक्षा XII की परीक्षा उत्तीर्ण की है। इनमें से अधिकांश विद्यार्थियों ने दिल्ली के कॉलेजों में अवर स्नातक पाठ्यक्रमों में प्रवेश के लिए आवेदन किया है। इसके अलावा, दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय एक प्रतिष्ठित संस्था होने के कारण सारे देश से विद्यार्थियों को आकर्षित करता है। फिर भी, लगभग प्रत्येक विद्यार्थी एक ही समय में एक से अधिक पाठ्यक्रमों तथा एक से अधिक कॉलेजों में प्रवेश के लिए आवेदन करता है अत: प्रवेश के लिए आवेदन करने वाले विद्यार्थियों की संख्या तथा प्रवेश न ले पाने वालों की सही संख्या नहीं बताई जा सकती।

Compensation to the rail victims

591. SHRI JOY NADUKKARA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of compensation given to the victims of the train-bus collision at Haripad railway crossing in Alapuzha district;

(b) the number of accidents that have occurred at railway crossings in Kerala during the last five years;

(c) whether it is because of the lack of railway gates and necessary security arrangements at the railway crossings that such accidents are occurring frequently; and

(d) what steps are being taken by the Railway to avoid such accidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) No compensation has been paid. However, a sum of Rs. 1,84,000/- has been paid as ex-gratia to the families of killed and to the injured.

(b) Statistics of train accidents are maintained railway Zone-wise and not State-wise.

(c) Accidents at unmanned level crossings take place due to the negligence of road users who fail to observe the provisions of Section 131 of Motor Vehicles Act.

(d) (i) Speed breakers/rumble strips have been provided on the approaches to unmanned level crossings so that the road vehicles may reduce their speed.

(ii) Whistle boards are provided alongside the rail track on approach of level crossings to enable the train driver to whistle to warn the road users about the approaching train.

(iii) To educate the road drivers about safety at unmanned level crossings, publicity campaign is launched through various media like quickies on TV, Cinema slides, talks on radio and newspaper advertisement. Apart from this, safety meetings at Gram Panchayat Level are also held in which tractor owners, etc. are invited.

(iv) A train actuated warning device developed by BEL is currently under trail. This will sound a hooter and flash a light when a train is approaching the level crossing.

गजरौला में वायु और जल प्रदूषण

592. **श्री सोमपाल:** क्या पर्यावरण और वन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि मुरादाबाद में गजरौला नामक स्थान पर वैम आर्गेनिक और उर्वरक तथा कागज के कारखानों से निकलने वाला प्रदूषित जल एवं विषैली गैसें वातावरण भूमिगत जल तथा गंगा नदी को लगातार प्रदूषित कर रहे हैं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार ने उक्त औद्योगिक इकाइयों द्वारा किए जा रहे प्रदूषण का कोई अध्ययन कराया है; और